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#### **Second College Edition**

## American Heritage Dictionary

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STAFF .....

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Usage and Ac Dwight Bolin; William F. Bt

English and G Geoffrey Nun

The Mathema Henry Kučera

GUIDE TO TH

STYLE MANU

PRONUNCIAT:

DICTIONARY BIOGRAPHICA

GEOGRAPHIC

GEOGRAPHIC

ABBREVIATIO

FOUR-YEAR C

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mmuter special. 2. A featured attraction in price: a special on lamb chops 3 ction that features a specific work cular performer. [ME < OFr. expects, kind.—see SPECIES.]—special to

nd specially have wider applican-ially. In the senses that it shares we ipecial is now much more commu-issingly rare and is used chiefly outstanding quality: a work of orb especially, on the other hand is placed by specially. Specially is used in the sense of "parti-tiv". He's especially talented, J. special is now much more common tly": He's especially talented. Jor Prudence is the best policy, especia

tive act that applies only to a parti

in., pl. special courts-martial g of at least three officers for two

e delivery of a piece of mail, for a special messenger rather than

sual or sound effects added to a m elevision show during processing division of the U.S. Army compoined in guerrilla fighting.

he handling of fourth-class or poass mail for an extra charge.

iz'am) n. 1. Confinement or limit f study or occupation. 2. A field

t) n. 1. a. A person who has devol-branch of study or research. b ractice in a specified field. 2. Any n the U.S. Army that correspond: gh sergeant first class. -spe'cial-is

l'ī-tē) n., pl. -ties. 1. A distinguishm reialities. Special points of consid-hiefly Brit. A specially. h'a-li-zā'shan) n. The act of speciali

oming specialized.

') v. -ized, -iz-ing, -iz-es. --intr. 1, 1 in a special study or activity. 2. Income adapted to a specific environ o concentrate on a particular active pecializes in mountain-climbing gen-fic mention of: particularize. 2.1 ter or function to, 3, Biol. To ada specify the payee in endorsing

chosen by the court upon rebly better-qualified candidates for y complex issues of fact.

y complex issues of fact.

Law. The assertion of new or special or special party's allegations, as an allowable or a single aspect of the favorable or a single aspect of the

e physical theory of space and tur stein that is based on the postular-sics are equally valid in all nonaccol-ice and that light is propagated to-ns at a constant speed and that he elativistic mass increase of rapid prentz contraction, time dilatation ss-energy equivalence.

ivity n. Special relativity n., pl. -ties. 1. A special pursuit, eskill. 2. An aspect of medicine is e their practice. 3. A special feature. arity. 4. The state or quality of bendal contract or agreement, esp, a deci-

('shan, -sē-) n. The evolution... species are formed. [SPECI(ES)

Coined money; coin. —idiom in the same kind in aw: In kind; in the same kind on in) kind < ablative of species.

n., pl. species. 1. Biol. a. A funda nomic classification, ranking after organisms capable of interbreeding ig to such a category, represented in 2 by a Latin adjective or epithet fol 2. Logic. A class of individuals and of their common attributes and ne; a division subordinate to a por type. 4. Obs. An outward form

appearance 5. Rom. Cath. Ch. a. The outward appearance or form of the Eucharistic elements that is retained after their consecration. b. Either of the consecrated elements of the Eucharist. 6. Obs. Specie. [Lat. species, appearance, kind specere, to look at.]

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speci-fi-a-ble (spes'a-fi'a-bal) adj. Capable of being specified

specific (spi-siffik) adj. 1. Explicitly set forth; definite.

2. Pertaining to, characterizing, or distinguishing a species.

3. Special, distinctive, or unique, as a quality or attribute.

4. Intended for, applying to, or acting upon a particular thing.

5. Denoting a disease produced by a particular microorganism or condition.

6. a. Denoting a customs charge levied upon merchandise by unit or weight rather than according to value.

b. Denoting a commodity rate applicable to the transportation of a single commodity rate applicable to the transportation of a single commodity between named points.

n. 1. Something specific, as a quality, statement, or attribute.

2. A remedy intended for a particular ailment or disorder. [Med. Lat. specificus < Lat. species, kind. species.]

specification (speci-ofi-kā'shan) n.

1. An act of specifying.

2. a. specifications. A detailed and exact statement of particulars, esp. a statement prescribing materials, dimensions, and workmanship for something to be built, installed, or manufactured.

b. A single item or article that has been specified.

3. An exact written description of an invention by spe-cif-ic (spi-sif'ik) adj. 1. Explicitly set forth; definite. specified. 3. An exact written description of an invention by an applicant for a patent.

specific gravity n. The ratio of the mass of a solid or liquid

to the mass of an equal volume of distilled water at 4°C or of a gas to an equal volume of air or hydrogen under prescribed conditions of temperature and pressure.

specific heat n. 1. The ratio of the amount of heat required

to raise the temperature of a unit mass of a substance by one unit of temperature to the amount of heat required to raise the temperature of a similar mass of a reference material, usually water, by the same amount. 2. The amount of heat, measured in calories, required to raise the temperature

of one gram of a substance by one centigrade degree.

specific impulse n. A performance measure for rocket propellants that is equal to units of thrust per unit weight of

propellant consumed per unit time.

specific performance n. Lan. The performance of a legal contract as specified in its terms.

specific resistance n. Elect. Resistivity (sense 2)

specific resistance n. Elect. Resistivity (sense 2). specific thrust n. Specific impulse. specify (specific) (n.v. -fled, -fy-ing, -fles. 1. To state explicitly. 2. To include in a specification. [ME specifier < OFr. specifier < Med. Lat. specificare < specificus, specific.] specificmen (specific) -man) n. 1. An individual, item, or part taken as representative of an entire set or whole; sample. 2. A sample, as of tissue, blood, or urine, used for analysis and disapposis [1.1].

and diagnosis. [Lat., example < specere, to look at.]

specious (specishes) adj. 1. Deceptively attractive. 2. Having the ring of truth or plausibility but actually fallacious: a specious argument. [ME, attractive < Lat. speciosus < species, appearance < specere, to look at.] —specious-ty adv. spe'cious·ness n.

speck (spek) n. 1. A small spot, mark, or discoloration. 2. A

speck (spèk) n. 1. A small spot, mark, or discoloration, 2. A very small bit; particle, —tr.v. specked, speck-ing, specks. To mark with specks. [ME specke < OE specca.] speck-le (spèk'əl) n. A speck or small spot, esp. a natural dot of color on skin, plumage, or foliage, —tr.v. -led, -ling, -les. To mark or cover with or as if with speckles. [ME spakle, perh. of MLG orig.] speck-led (spèk'əld) adj. 1. Dotted or covered with speckles, esp. flecked with small spots of contrasting color. 2. Of a mixed character; motley.

les, esp. flecked with small spots of contrasting color. 2. Of a mixed character; motley.

speckled trout n. The brook trout.

speck (speks) pl.n. Informal. 1. Also specks. Eyeglasses: spectacles. 2. Specifications (sense 2.a.).

specta-cle (spek'ta-kal) n. 1. A public performance or display. 2. a. An object of interest. b. A regrettable public display, as of bad behavior: made a spectacle of himself.

3. a. Something seen or capable of being seen. b. The sight of something. 4. spectacles. a. Glasses (sense 4.b.). b. Something resembling eyeglasses in shape or suggesting them in function. [ME < OFr. < Lat. spectaculum < spectacre, to watch, freq. of spectere, to look at.]

specta-cled (spek'ta-kald) adj. 1. Wearing spectacles. 2. Having markings suggesting spectacles. Used of animals.

spectac-u-lar (spek'ta-kald) adj. Of the nature of a spectacle; sensational. —n. A single theatrical production of unusual length or lavishness. —spec-tac'u-lar'i-ty (-lâr'i-tê) n.

—spec-tac'u-lar-ly adv.

-spec-tac'u-lar-ly acv. spec-ta-tor (spēk'tā'tər) n. An observer of an event. [Lat.

spectation < spectare, to watch. —see SPECTACLE.]
specter (spek'tor) n. 1. A phantom; apparition. 2. A threatening or haunting possibility: the terrible specter of nuclear war. [Fr. spectre < Lat. spectrum, appearance < specere, to look at

spectral (spěk'trə) n. A plural of spectrum.
spectral (spěk'trə) adj. 1. Of or resembling a specter;
ghostly. 2. Of, pertaining to, or produced by a spectrum.
---spectral'i-ty (-trăl'i-tè), spec'tral-ness n. ---spec'tral-ly ad

spectrat line n. An isolated peak of intensity in a spectrum,

esp. one of the visible dispersed images of the slit through which light enters the collimator of a spectroscope, produced by light of a single wavelength.

spectre (spek'tar) n. Chiefly Brit. Variant of specter.

spectro- pref. Spectrum: spectrograph. [< SPECTRUM.] spec-tro-gram (spek'tra-gram') n. A graph or photograph of

spectro-graph (spěk'tro-grāf') n. 1. A spectroscope equipped to photograph spectra. 2. A spectrogram.—spec'tro-graph'ic adj.—spec'tro-graph'ical-ly adv. 

tered on a selected wavelength.

spec-tro-he-li-o-graph (spek'trō-he'le-a-grāf') n. An instrument used to make spectroheliograms. —spec'tro-he'll-o-graph'ic adj. —spec'tro-he'll-og'ra-phy (-òg'ra-fè) n. spec-tro-he-ll-o-scope (spèk'trò-hè'lè-a-skōp') n. An in-

strument used to observe solar radiation. - spec'tro-he'li-o-

strument used to observe solar radiation. —spec'tro-he'ii-o-scop'te (-skôp'īk) adj.

spec-trom-e-ter (spēk-trōm'i-tər) n. A spectroscope equipped with scales for measuring the positions of spectral lines. [spec'tro(scope) + -METER.] —spec'tro-met'ric (-tro-met'rik) adj. —spec-trom'e-try n.

spec-tro-pho-tom-e-ter (spēk'trō-fō-tōm'i-tər) n. Physics. An instrument used to determine the distribution of energy in a spectrum of luminous radiation.

in a spectrum of luminous radiation. -spec'tro-pho'to-

in a spectrum of luminous radiation. —spec'tro-pho'to-met'ric (-fô'tə-met'rik) adj. —spec'tro-pho-tom'e-try n. spec-tro-scope (spek'tro-skôp') n. Any of various instruments for resolving and observing or recording spectra. —spec'tro-scop'ic (-skôp'ik), spec'tro-scop'i-cal-ly adv. spec'tro-scop'i-cal-ly adv. spec'tro-scopic analysis n. The analysis of a spectrum to determine characteristics of its source, as the analysis of the optical spectrum of an incandescent body to determine its composition or motion.

composition or motion.

spec-tros-co-py (spek-tros'kə-pe) n. The study of spectra, esp. the experimental observation of optical spectra. spec-tros'co-pist n.

spectrum (spek'tram) n., pl. -tra (-tra) or -trums. 1. Physics. The distribution of a characteristic of a physical system or phenomenon. esp.: a. The distribution of energy emitted by a radiant source, as by an incandescent body, arranged in order of wavelengths. b. The distribution of atomic or subatomic particles in a system, as in a magnetically resolved molecular beam, arranged in order of masses. c. A graphic or photographic representation of such a distribution. 2. a. A range of values of a quantity or set of related quantities. b. A broad sequence or range of related qualities, ideas, or activities: the whole spectrum of 20th-century thought. [Lat., appearance < specere, to look at.] spec-u-la (spēk'yə-lər) n. A plural of speculum. spec-u-lar (spēk'yə-lər) adj. Of. resembling, or produced by a mirror or speculum.

a mirror or speculum

-u-late (spčk'yo-lat') intr.v. -lat-ed, -lat-ing, -lates, 1. To meditate on a given subject: reflect. 2. To engage in the buying or selling of a commodity with an element of risk on the chance of profit. [Lat. specular, specular, to observe <

specula. watchtower < specere, to look at.]
specu-la-tion (spek 'yə-la'shən) n. 1. a. The act of speculating. b. Contemplation of a profound nature. c. A conclusion. opinion. or theory reached by speculating. sion, opinion, or theory reached by speculating.

2. a. Engagement in risky business transactions on the chance of quick or considerable profit. b. An instance of speculating.

ec-u-la-tive (spěk'yə-lə-tiv, -lā'-) adj. 1. Of, characterized by, or based upon contemplative speculation. 2. a. Given to speculation or conjecture. b. Spent in speculation. 3. a. Engaging in, given to, or involving financial speculation. b. Characteristic of speculation in the involvement of chance: risky. —spec'u-la-tive-ness

spec-u-la-tor (spēk'yə-lā'tər) n. One that speculates. spec-u-lum (spek'yə-ləm) n., pl. -la (-lə) or -lums. 1. A mir-ror or polished metal plate used as a reflector in optical instruments. 2. An instrument for dilating the opening of a body cavity for medical examination. 3. Biol. a. A bright, often iridescent patch of color on the wings of certain birds,

often iridescent patch of color on the wings of certain birds, esp. ducks. b. A transparent spot in the wings of some butterflies or moths. [Lat., mirror < specere, to look at.] sped (spēd) v. A past tense and past participle of speed. speech (spēch) n. 1. a. The faculty or act of speaking. b. The faculty or act of expressing or describing thoughts, feelings, or perceptions by the articulation of words. 2. Something that is spoken; utterance. 3. Vocal communication; conversation. 4. a. A talk or public address. b. A printed copy of an address. 5. A person's habitual manner or style of speaking. 6. The language or dialect of a nation or region. 7. The sounding of a musical instrument. 8. The study of oral communication, speech sounds, and vocal study of oral communication, speech sounds, and vocal physiology. 9. Archaic. Rumor. [ME speche < OE speech

speech community n. All speakers of a particular language or dialect, whether located in one area or scattered, speech-i-fy (specho-fi') intr.v. -fied, -fy-ing, -fies. To give a speech, -speech'i-fi'er n

p pop/r roar/s sauce/sh ship, dish/t tight/th thin, path/th this, bathe/u cut/ur urge/v valve/w with/y yes/z zebra, size/ zh vision / a about, item, edible, gallop, circus / ce Fr. feu, Ger. schön / ü Fr. tu, Ger. über / кн Ger. ich, Scot. loch/ n Fr. bon.

<sup>1</sup>t / hw which / i pit / i pie / ir pie: i noise / ou out / oo took / oo boot

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STAFF ..... USAGE PANI CONSULTAN SPECIAL ART Language, Ct Lee Pedersor Usage and Ac Dwight Bolin; William F. Bı English and G Geoffrey Nun The Mathema Henry Kučera GUIDE TO TH STYLE MANU **PRONUNCIAT DICTIONARY BIOGRAPHICA** GEOGRAPHIC ABBREVIATIO FOUR-YEAR C TWO-YEAR CO

PICTURE CREI

INTRODUCTI

nmuter special. 2. A featured attraction in price: a special on lamb chaps. 3 ction that features a specific wordular performer. [ME < OFr. (Special Control of the control es, kind. -see species.] -spe'cial i,

nd specially have wider applicantally. In the senses that it shares we special is now much more company asingly rare and is used chiefly outstanding quality: a work of each especially, on the other hand had placed by specially. Specially is a cicular purpose: specially trained, illy is used in the sense of "paring tly": He's especially talented Jan. Prudence is the best policy, especial

ive act that applies only to a party.

n., pl. special courts-martial 2 of at least three officers for treat

e delivery of a piece of mail, for a special messenger rather than i

sual or sound effects added to a or levision show during processing division of the U.S. Army company ned in guerrilla fighting.
he handling of fourth-class or pa iss mail for an extra charge. z'am) n. 1. Confinement or limit study or occupation. 2. A field

) n. 1, a. A person who has deven-branch of study or research, b actice in a specified field, 2, Any ) the U.S. Army that correspond: h sergeant first class. -spe'cialis

i-tē) n., pl. -ties. 1. A distinguishm italities. Special points of considerefly Brit. A specialty.

(a-li-za'shan) n. The act of specialized

oming specialized. n a special study or activity. 2. Bu ome adapted to a specific environ concentrate on a particular activities in mountain-climbing government. ic mention of; particularize. 2. 1 er or function to. 3. Biol. To adag specify the payee in endorsing

chosen by the court upon y better-qualified candidates for complex issues of fact. aw. The assertion of new or spe-

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ity n. Special relativity . pl. -ties. 1. A special pursuit, of sill. 2. An aspect of medicine their practice. 3. A special feature ity. 4. The state or quality of bemcontract or agreement, esp. a den-

han, -sē-) n. The evolution... pecies are formed. [SPECI(ES)

Coined money; coin. — Idiom in w. In kind; in the same kind ... w. In kind; in the same kin
i) kind < ablative of species.

pl. species. 1. Biol. a. A funda mic classification, ranking after ganisms capable of interbreeding to such a category, represented may a Latin adjective or epither follogic. A class of individuals of their common attributes and ; a division subordinate to a petype. 4. Obs. An outward form of

/ hw which / i pit / I pie / ir pier noise / ou out / oo took / oo boot

appearance. 5. Rom. Cath. Ch. a. The outward appearance or form of the Eucharistic elements that is retained after their consecration. b. Either of the consecrated elements of the Eucharist. 6. Obs. Specie. [Lat. species, appearance, kind < specere, to look at.1

spec-i-fl-a-ble (spes'a-fl'a-bal) adj. Capable of being speci-

specific (spi-siffk) adj. 1. Explicitly set forth; definite.

2. Pertaining to, characterizing, or distinguishing a species.

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6. a. Denoting a customs charge levied upon mechandise by unit or weight rather than aclevied upon merchandise by unit or weight rather than ac-cording to value. b. Denoting a commodity rate applicable to the transportation of a single commodity between named points. —n. 1. Something specific, as a quality, statement, or attribute. 2. A remedy intended for a particular ailment or disorder. [Med. Lat. specificus < Lat. species, kind, species.]—specifically adv.—specificity (specia-clisi-clis) n. specifically adv.—specificity (specia-clisi-clisi) n. specifically adv.—specificity (specia-clisi-clisi) n. specifically adv.—specificity (specially adv.—specificity) (specially adv.—specially adv. ing. 2. a. specifications. A detailed and exact statement of particulars, esp. a statement prescribing materials, dimensions, and workmanship for something to be built, installed. or manufactured. b. A single item or article that has been specified. 3. An exact written description of an invention by an applicant for a patent, specific gravity n. The ratio of the mass of a solid or liquid

specific gravity n. The ratio of the mass of a solid or liquid to the mass of an equal volume of distilled water at 4°C or of a gas to an equal volume of air or hydrogen under prescribed conditions of temperature and pressure.

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specific performance n. Law. The performance of a legal

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contract as specified in its terms.

specific resistance n. Elect. Resistivity (sense 2).

specific thrust n. Specific impulse.

specify (speci-fi') n.v. -fied, -fy-ing, -fles. 1. To state explicitly. 2. To include in a specification. [ME specifier < OFT. specifier < Med. Lat. specificare < specificus, specific, speci-men (speci-men (speci-men) n. 1. An individual, item, or part taken as representative of an entire set or whole: sample. 2. A sample, as of tissue, blood, or urine, used for analysis and diagnosis. [Lat., example < specie, to look at.]

specious (specials) adj. 1. Deceptively attractive. 2. Having the ring of truth or plausibility but actually fallacious: a

ing the ring of truth or plausibility but actually fallacious: a specious argument. [ME. attractive < Lat. specious < species, appearance < species, to look at.]—speciously adv. spe'cious ness n

speck (spěk) n. 1. A small spot, mark, or discoloration, 2. A

speck (spek) n. 1. A small spot, mark, or discoloration. 2. A very small bit; particle. —tr.v. specked, specking, specks. To mark with specks. [ME specke < OE specca.]
speckile (spek'al) n. A speck or small spot, esp. a natural dot of color on skin, plumage, or foliage. —tr.v. -led, -ling, less. To mark or cover with or as if with speckles. [ME spakle, perh. of MLG orig.]
speckiled (spek'ald) adj. 1. Dotted or covered with speckles, esp. flecked with small spots of contrasting color. 2. Of a mixed character; motley.
speckiled trout n. The brook trout.
speckled trout n. The brook trout.

speckled trout n. The brook trout.

specs (spěks) pl.n. Informal. 1. Also specks. Eyeglasses:
spectacles. 2. Specifications (sense 2.a.).

spectacle. (spěk'(1-kal) n. 1. A public performance or display. 2. a. An object of interest. b. A regrettable public display, as of bad behavior: made a spectacle of himself.

3. a. Something seen or capable of being seen. b. The sight of something. 4. spectacles. a. Glasses (sense 4.b.).

b. Something resembling eyeglasses in shape or suggesting them in function. [ME < OFr. < Lat. spectaculum < spectare, to watch, freq. of specere, to look at.]

specta-cled (spěk'12-kald) adj. 1. Wearing spectacles.

2. Having markings suggesting spectacles. Used of animals.
spectacular (spěk'12-kald). adj. Of the nature of a spectacle; sensational. —n. A single theatrical production of unusual length or lavishness. —spectac'u-lar'i-tý (-lâr'i-tē) n.

usual length or lavishness. -spec-tac'u-lar'i-ty (-lăr'i-tê) n.

-spec-tac'u-lar-ly adv. spec-ta-tor (spēk'tā'tər) n. An observer of an event. [Lat.

spectator (spek ta tor) h. An observer of an event. [Lat. spectator < spectare, to watch. —see SPECTACLE.]
spec-ter (spek'tor) n. 1. A phantom; apparition. 2. A threatening or haunting possibility: the terrible specter of nuclear war. [Fr. spectre < Lat. spectrum, appearance < specere, to look at 1

spec-tral (spek'tro) n. A plural of spectrum.

spec-tral (spek'trol) adj. 1. Of or resembling a specter;
ghostly. 2. Of, pertaining to, or produced by a spectrum.

—spec-tral'i-ty (-tral'1-te), spec'tral-neas n. —spec'tral-ty

spectral line n. An isolated peak of intensity in a spectrum,

esp. one of the visible dispersed images of the slit through which light enters the collimator of a spectroscope, produced by light of a single wavelength.

spectre (spek'tar) n. Chiefly Brit. Variant of specter.
spectro-pref. Spectrum: spectrograph. [< spectrum.]

spec-tro-gram (spek'tra-gram') n. A graph or photograph of a spectrum

a spectrum.

spectrum.

spectro-graph (spěk'tra-gráf') n. 1. A spectroscope
equipped to photograph spectra. 2. A spectrogram.

—spec'tro-graph'ic adj. —spec'tro-graph'i-cal-ly adv.
—spectrog'ra-phy (-tròg'ra-fè) n.

-spectrography (-trogra-le) n. spectro-the-li-o-gram (spēk'trō-hē'lē-o-grām') n. A photo-graph of the sun taken in a narrow wavelength band centered on a selected wavelength.

spectro-he-li-o-graph (spēk'trō-hē'lē-o-grāf') n. An instrument used to make spectro-he-li-o-graph'ic adj. -spec'tro-he-li-o-scope (spēk'trō-hē'lē-o-skōp') n. An instrument used to observe solar radiation. -spec'tro-he-li-o-scope (spēk'trō-hē'lē-o-skōp') n. An instrument used to observe solar radiation. -spec'tro-he-li-o-scope (spēk'trō-hē'lē-o-skōp') n.

scop'ic (-skop'īk) adi.

pec-trome-ter (spek-trom'i-tar) n. A spectroscope equipped with scales for measuring the positions of spectral ines. [SPECTRO(SCOPE) + -METER.] —spec'tro-met'ric spec-trom-e-ter

lines. [spectro(scope) + -METER.] —spec'tro-met'ric (-tro-met'rīk) adj. —spec-trom'etry n. spec-tro-pho-tom-e-ter (spek'tro-fo-tom'i-tər) n. Physics. An instrument used to determine the distribution of energy in a spectrum of luminous radiation. —spec'tro-pho-tometric (-fo'tə-met'rīk) adj. —spec'tro-pho-tom'e-try n. spec-tro-scope (spek'tro-skōp') n. Any of various instruments for resolving and observing or recording spectra. —spec'tro-scop'ic (-skōp'īk). spec'tro-scop'ic-al adj.—spec'tro-scop'ic-al-y adv. spec'tro-scop'ic-al-y adv. spec'tro-scop'ic-al-y adv. spec'tro-scop'ic a spectrum to spectra.

spectroscopic analysis n. The analysis of a spectrum to determine characteristics of its source, as the analysis of the optical spectrum of an incandescent body to determine its composition or motion.

spec-tros-co-py (spek-tros'ko-pe) n. The study of spectra, the experimental observation of optical spectra. esp.

spec-tros'co-pist n

spec-trum (spek'tram) n., pl. -tra (-tra) or -trums, 1, Physics. spec-trum (spec'tram) n. pl. -tra (-tra) or -trums. 1. Physics. The distribution of a characteristic of a physical system or phenomenon. esp.: a. The distribution of energy emitted by a radiant source, as by an incandescent body, arranged in order of wavelengths. b. The distribution of atomic or sub-atomic particles in a system, as in a magnetically resolved molecular beam, arranged in order of masses. c. A graphic or photographic representation of such a distribution. 2. a. A range of values of a quantity or set of related quantities. b. A broad sequence or range of related qualities. 2. a. A range of varues of a quantity of set of related quantities. b. A broad sequence or range of related qualities, ideas, or activities: the whole spectrum of 20th-century thought. [Lat., appearance < specere, to look at.] specula (spek'ya-la) n. A plural of speculum, specular (spek'ya-lar) adj. Of, resembling, or produced by a mirror of speculum.

a mirror or speculum.

speculate (spek'yo-lāt') intr.v. -lat-ed, -lat-ing, -lates. 1. To meditate on a given subject: reflect. 2. To engage in the buying or selling of a commodity with an element of risk on

ouying or seiling of a commodity with an element of risk on the chance of profit. [Lat. specular, specular, to observe < specula, watchtower < specere, to look at.] specularing b. Contemplation of a profound nature. c. A conclusion, opinion, or theory reached by speculating.

2. a. Engagement in risky business transactions on the chance of quick or considerable profit. b. An instance of speculating.

speculating.
speculative (spek'yə-lə-tiv. -lā'-) adj. 1. Of, characterized by, or based upon contemplative speculation. 2. a. Given to speculation or conjecture. b. Spent in speculation. 3. a. Engaging in, given to, or involving financial speculation, b. Characteristic of speculation in the involvement of chance: risky. —spec'u-la-tive-ly udv. —spec'u-la-tive-ness

n.
spec-u-la-tor (spěk'yɔ-la'(ı¬r) n. One that speculates.
spec-u-lum (spěk'yɔ-ləm) n., pl. -la (-lə) or -lums. 1. A mirror or polished metal plate used as a reflector in optical instruments. 2. An instrument for dilating the opening of a body cavity for medical examination. 3. Biol. a. A bright, often iridescent patch of color on the wings of certain birds, esp. ducks. b. A transparent spot in the wings of some butterflies or moths [1] at mirror < tracerer to look at l. esp. ducks. b. A transparent spot in the wings of some butterflies or moths. [Lat., mirror < specere, to look at.] sped (spēd) v. A past tense and past participle of speed, speech (spēch) n. 1. a. The faculty or act of speaking. b. The faculty or act of expressing or describing thoughts, feelings, or perceptions by the articulation of words. 2. Something that is spoken; utterance. 3. Vocal communication; conversation. 4. a. A talk or public address. b. A printed copy of an address. 5. A person's habitual manner or style of speaking. 6. The language or dialect of a nation or region. 7. The sounding of a musical instrument. 8. The study of oral communication, speech sounds, and vocal physiology. 9. Archaic. Rumor. [ME speche < OE spæc, spræc.]

speech community n. All speakers of a particular language or dialect, whether located in one area or scattered speech-i-fy (spe'cha-fi') intr.v. -fied, -fy-ing, -fies. To give a speech'i-li'er n.

p pop/r roar/s sauce/sh ship, dish/t tight/th thin, path/th this, bathe/ù cut/ûr urge/v valve/w with/y yes/z zebra, size/ zh vision / a about, item, edible, gallop, circus / ce Fr. feu, Ger. schön / ü Fr. tu, Ger. über / KH Ger. ich, Scot. loch/ N Fr. bon. **Second College Edition** 

### American Heritage Dictionary

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nmuter special. 2. A featured attraction that features a specific work ular performer. [ME < OFr. expects] es. kind. —see SPECIES.] —spe'coult.

nd specially have wider applicanially. In the senses that it shares we pecial is now much more common-asingly rare and is used chiefly outstanding quality: a work of or-reb especially, on the other hand its placed by specially. Specially is used. icular purpose: specially trained, yally is used in the sense of "partially": He's especially talented. Jan. Prudence is the best policy, especial

tive act that applies only to a parti-

| n., pl. special courts-martial g of at least three officers for train

e delivery of a piece of mail, for a special messenger rather than 1

ual or sound effects added to a m elevision show during processing division of the U.S. Army composite uned in guerrilla fighting.

The handling of fourth-class or po ass mail for an extra charge. iz'am) n. 1. Confinement or limit f study or occupation. 2. A field

t) n. 1. a. A person who has devoired branch of study or research. be ractice in a specified field. 2. Any on the U.S. Army that corresponding heregant first class. —specialis

l'I-tè) n. pl. -ties. 1. A distinguishmetaltites. Special points of considerable Brit. A specialty brit. A specialty h'-31-28/shon) n. The act of specialtic ecoming specialized.

coming specialized.

() v. -ized, -iz-ing, -iz-es. — intr. 1. 1 in a special study or activity. 2. Income adapted to a specific envirous concentrate on a particular activity pecializes in mountain-climbing geomific mention of; particularize. 2. 1 iter or function to 3. Biol. To adapte a specify the page in endorsing. o specify the payee in endorsing to

chosen by the court upon reque bly better-qualified candidates for ly complex issues of fact.

Law. The assertion of new or species

osing party's allegations, as an alter . 2. A presentation of an argument favorable or a single aspect of the

ie physical theory of space and timenstein that is based on the postulate sics are equally valid in all nonaccel nee and that light is propagated is ins at a constant speed and that has elativistic mass increase of rapidly orentz contraction, time dilatation ass-energy equivalence

extraordinary session of a court or of

tivity n. Special relativity. skill. 2. An aspect of medicine to their practice. 3. A special feature arity. 4. The state or quality of being all contents or special feature arity. al contract or agreement, esp. a deed

ā'shən, -sē-) n. The evolutionars , species are formed. [SPECI(ES)

Coined money; coin. —Idlom in aw. In kind; in the same kind in (in) kind < ablative of species.

) n., pl. species, 1, Biol. a. A funds momic classification, ranking after organisms capable of interpreeding ng to such a category, represented in e by a Latin adjective or epithet fol 2. Logic. A class of individuals of tue of their common attributes and me; a division subordinate to a grant of their common attributes and me; a division subordinate to a grant of their common attributes. or type. 4. Obs. An outward form ...

appearance. 5. Rom. Cath. Ch. a. The outward appearance or form of the Eucharistic elements that is retained after their consecration. b. Either of the consecrated elements of the Eucharist. 6. Obs. Specie. [Lat. species, appearance, kind

spec-l-fi-a-ble (spes'a-fī'a-bal) adj. Capable of being speci-

fied.

specific (spi-sifik) adj. 1. Explicitly set forth; definite.

2. Pertaining to, characterizing, or distinguishing a species.

3. Special, distinctive, or unique, as a quality or attribute.

4. Intended for, applying to, or acting upon a particular thing. 5. Denoting a disease produced by a particular microorganism or condition.

6. a. Denoting a customs charge levied upon merchandise by unit or weight rather than according to value. b. Denoting a commodity rate applicable to the transportation of a single commodity between named points.

1. Something specific, as a quality, statement, or attribute. 2. A remedy intended for a particular ailment or disorder. [Med. Lat. specifics < Lat. species, kind, species.]—specification (spēs'o-fi-kā'shon) n. 1. An act of specifying. 2. a. specifications. A detailed and exact statement of particulars, esp. a statement prescribing materials, dimensions, and workmanship for something to be built, installed, or manufactured. b. A single item or article that has been specified. 3. An exact written description of an invention by an applicant for a patent.

specific gravity n. The ratio of the mass of a solid or liquid to the mass of an equal volume of distilled water at 4°C or of a gas to an equal volume of air or hydrogen under prescribed conditions of temperature and pressure.

specific heat n. 1. The ratio of the amount of heat required to raise the temperature to the amount of heat required to one unit of temperature to the amount of heat required to one unit of temperature to the amount of heat required to one unit of temperature to the amount of heat required to one unit of temperature to the mount of heat required to one unit of temperature to the amount of heat required to one unit of temperature to the mount of heat required to one unit of temperature to the mount of heat required to one unit of temperature to the mount of heat required to one unit of temperature to the mount of heat required to spe-cif-ic (spi-sif'ik) adj. 1. Explicitly set forth; definite.

to raise the temperature of a unit mass of a substance by one unit of temperature to the amount of heat required to raise the temperature of a similar mass of a reference material, usually water, by the same amount. 2. The amount of heat, measured in calories, required to raise the temperature of one gram of a substance by one centigrade degree.

specific impulse n. A performance measure for rocket propellants that is equal to units of thrust per unit weight of propellant consumed per unit time.

specific performance n. Law. The performance of a legal contract as specified in its terms.

specific resistance n. Elect. Resistivity (sense 2).

specific resistance n. Elect. Resistivity (sense 2).
specific thrust n. Specific impulse.
speci-ity (spès'2-fi') tr.v. -fied, -ty-ing, -fies. 1. To state explicitly. 2. To include in a specification. [ME specifien <
OFr. specifier < Med. Lat. specificare < specificus, specific.]
speci-men (spès'2-man) n. 1. An individual, item, or part taken as representative of an entire set or whole; sample.
2. A sample, as of tissue, blood, or urine, used for analysis and diagnosis. [Lat., example < specere, to look at.]
specious (spè'shs) adj. 1. Deceptively attractive. 2. Having the ring of truth or plausibility but actually fallacious: a specious argument. [ME, attractive < Lat. specious < species, appearance < specere, to look at.]—spe'cious-ly adv.—spe'clous-ness n.

spe'clous·ness n.

—spe'clous-ness n. speck (spèk) n. 1. A small spot, mark, or discoloration. 2. A very small bit; particle. —tr.v. specked, speck-ing, specks. To mark with specks. [ME specke < OE specca.] speck-le (spèk'al) n. A speck or small spot, esp. a natural dot of color on skin, plumage, or foliage. —tr.v. -led, -ling, -les. To mark or cover with or as if with speckles. [ME spakle, perh. of MLG orig.] speck-led (spèk'ald) adj. 1. Dotted or covered with speckles, esp. flecked with small spots of contrasting color. 2. Of a mixed character; motley.

les, esp. flecked with small spots of contrasting color. 2. Of a mixed character; motley.

speckled trout n. The brook trout.

specs (spēks) pl.n. Informal. 1. Also specks. Eyeglasses; spectacles. 2. Specifications (sense 2.a.).

spec-ta-cle (spēk'to-kəl) n. 1. A public performance or display. 2. a. An object of interest. b. A regrettable public display, as of bad behavior: made a spectacle of himself.

3. a. Something seen or capable of being seen. b. The sight of something. 4. spectacles. a. Glasses (sense 4.b.). of something. 4. spectacles. a. Glasses (sense 4.b.). b. Something resembling eyeglasses in shape or suggesting them in function. [ME < OFr. < Lat. spectaculum < spectare,

to watch, freq. of specere, to look at.]

spec-ta-cled (spēk'tə-kəld) adj. 1. Wearing spectacles.

2. Having markings suggesting spectacles. Used of animals.

spec-ta-cu-lar (spēk-tāk'yə-lər) adj. Of the nature of a spectacle; sensational. —n. A single theatrical production of unusual length or lavishness. —spec-tac'u-lar'i-ty (-lār'ī-tē) n.

-spec-tac'u-lar-ly adv. spec-ta-tor (spek'tă'tər) n. An observer of an event. [Lat.

spectator (spectator) n. An observer of an event. [Lat. spectator < spectare, to watch.—see SPECTACLE.] specter (spectar) n. 1. A phantom, apparition. 2. A threatening or haunting possibility: the terrible specter of nuclear war. [Fr. spectre < Lat. spectrum, appearance < specere, to look at.]

spec-tral (spěk'trə) n. A plural of spectrum.
spec-tral (spěk'trə) adj. 1. Of or resembling a specter;
ghostly. 2. Of, pertaining to, or produced by a spectrum.
--spec-tral'i-ty (-tral'i-tè), spec'tral-ness n. --spec'tral-ty

spectral line n. An isolated peak of intensity in a spectrum,

esp. one of the visible dispersed images of the slit through which light enters the collimator of a spectroscope, pro-

duced by light of a single wavelength.

spec-tre (spěk'tər) n. Chiefly Brit. Variant of specter.

spectro- pref. Spectrum: spectrograph. [< SPECTRUM.]

spec-tro-gram (spěk'trə-grām') n. A graph or photograph of

spec-tro-gram (spēk'tra-gram') n. A graph or photograph of a spectrum.

spec-tro-graph (spēk'tra-grāf') n. 1. A spectroscope equipped to photograph spectra. 2. A spectrogram.

—spec'tro-graph'ic adj. —spec'tro-graph'i-cal-ly adv.

—spec-tro-he-li-o-gram (spēk'trō-hē'lē-a-grām') n. A photograph of the sun taken in a narrow wavelength band centered on a selected wavelength.

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spec-tro-he-li-o-scope (spēk'trō-hē'lē-a-skōp') n. An instrument used to observe solar radiation. —spec'tro-he-li-o-scop'e (-skōp'fik) adj.

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in a spectrum of luminous radiation. -spec'tro-pho'to

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spec-trum (spēk'trəm) n., pl. -tra (-trə) or -trums. 1. Physics. The distribution of a characteristic of a physical system or phenomenon, esp.: a. The distribution of energy emitted by a radiant source, as by an incandescent body, arranged in order of wavelengths. b. The distribution of atomic or subatomic particles in a system, as in a magnetically resolved molecular beam, arranged in order of masses. c. A graphic or photographic representation of such a distribution.

or photographic representation of such a distribution.

2. a. A range of values of a quantity or set of related quantities. b. A broad sequence or range of related qualities, ideas, or activities: the whole spectrum of 20th-century thought. [Lat., appearance < specere, to look at.]

spec-u-la (spēk'ya-lar) adj. Of, resembling, or produced by a mirror or speculum.

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spec-u-lation (spēk'ya-lā'shan) n. 1. a. The act of speculating. b. Contemplation of a profound nature. c. A conclusion, opinion, or theory reached by speculating.

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spreec.]
speech community n. All speakers of a particular language or dialect, whether located in one area or scattered.
speech:i-fy (spē'chə-[ī') intr.v. -fied, -fy-ing, -fies. To give a speech. —speech'i-fi'er n.

nat / hw which / ī pit / ī pie / îr pier oi noise / ou out / oo took / oo been p pop/r roar/s sauce/sh ship, dish/t tight/th thin, path/th this, bathe/ū cut/ūr urge/v valve/w with/y yes/z zebra, size/ zh vision / 2 about, item, edible, gallop, circus / & Fr. feu, Ger. schön / ü Fr. tu, Ger. über / KH Ger. ich, Scot. loch/ N Fr. bon.